

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A vehicle drive control apparatus, comprising:
 buffers, as a recording portion, set for each of a plurality of storage items, each of the plurality of storage items having a different sampling cycle; and
 a controller that:
 samples variable quantities, that indicate a status of a vehicle that changes with a running of the vehicle, at ~~a sampling cycle set~~ different sampling cycles for each of the plurality of storage items; and
 records the variable quantities successively in each of the buffers as storage data for each of the different sampling cycles.
2. (Original) The vehicle drive control apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the controller records the storage data recorded in each of the buffers in a second recording portion.
3. (Original) The vehicle drive control apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the controller determines whether a recording condition for recording in the second recording portion is established based on the variable quantities and, if the recording condition is established, attains instantaneous data at a timing at which the recording condition is established and records the instantaneous data in the second recording portion
4. (Original) The vehicle drive control apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the controller determines whether the recording condition is provided for recording in the second recording portion based on the variable quantities and, if the recording condition is established, records storage data before a timing at which the recording condition is established and records storage data after the timing at which the recording condition is established, or at least one of the variable quantities, in the second recording portion.
5. (Original) The vehicle drive control apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the controller, after a predetermined time elapses following the timing at which the recording condition is established, records the storage data before the timing and the storage data after the timing, or at least any one of the variable quantities, in the second recording portion.

6. (Original) The vehicle drive control apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the buffers are formed from a ring buffer and the storage data is overwritten repeatedly from a head address to an end address in the ring buffer so as to be recorded therein.

7. (Original) The vehicle drive control apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the controller, up until a predetermined time elapses following the timing at which the recording condition is established, successively records the storage data before the timing in the second recording portion and records the variable quantity after the timing in the second recording portion.

8. (Original) The vehicle drive control apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the buffers are formed from a ring buffer and the storage data is overwritten repeatedly from a head address to an end address in the ring buffer so as to be recorded therein.

9. (Original) The vehicle drive control apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the controller determines whether a recording condition is provided for recording in the second recording portion based on the variable quantities and, if the recording condition is established, records storage data before a timing at which the recording condition is established and storage data after the timing at which the recording condition is established, or at least one of the variable quantities, in the second recording portion.

10. (Original) The vehicle drive control apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the controller, after a predetermined time elapses following the timing at which the recording condition is established, records the storage data before the timing and the storage data after the timing, or at least any one of the variable quantities, in the second recording portion.

11. (Original) The vehicle drive control apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the buffers are formed from a ring buffer and the storage data is overwritten repeatedly from a head address to an end address in the ring buffer so as to be recorded therein.

12. (Original) The vehicle drive control apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the controller, up until a predetermined time elapses following the timing at which the recording condition is established, successively records the storage data before the timing in the second recording portion and records the variable quantity after the timing in the second recording portion.

13. (Original) The vehicle drive control apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the buffers are formed from a ring buffer and the storage data is overwritten repeatedly from a head address to an end address in the ring buffer so as to be recorded therein.

14. (Original) The vehicle drive control apparatus according to claim 2, wherein item definition data about the storage items of the storage data to be recorded in the buffers is recorded in the second recording portion.

15. (Original) The vehicle drive control apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the buffers are formed from a ring buffer and the storage data is overwritten repeatedly from a head address to an end address in the ring buffer so as to be recorded therein.

16. (Original) The vehicle drive control apparatus according to claim 2, wherein an abnormal phenomenon identification flag for identifying an abnormal phenomenon is recorded in the second recording portion.

17. (Original) The vehicle drive control apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the buffers are formed from a ring buffer and the storage data is overwritten repeatedly from a head address to an end address in the ring buffer so as to be recorded therein.

18. (Original) The vehicle drive control apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the buffers are formed from a ring buffer and the storage data is overwritten repeatedly from a head address to an end address in the ring buffer so as to be recorded therein.

19. (Currently Amended) A vehicle drive control method, comprising:
 setting a buffer for each of a plurality of storage items, each of the plurality of storage items having a different sampling cycle;
 sampling variable quantities, that indicate a status of a vehicle that changes with a running of the vehicle, at ~~a sampling cycle set~~ different sampling cycles for each of the plurality of storage items; and
 recording the variable quantities successively in each of the buffers as storage data for each of the different sampling cycles.

20. (Currently Amended) A ~~program~~ computer readable memory medium for a vehicle drive control apparatus, the memory medium storing a program comprising:
 ~~a routine that sets~~ instructions to set buffers for multiple storage items, each of the multiple storage items having a different sampling cycle;
 ~~a routine that samples~~ instructions to sample variable quantities, that indicate a status of a vehicle that changes with a running of the vehicle, at ~~a sampling cycle set~~ different sampling cycles for each of the multiple storage items; and
 ~~a routine that records~~ instructions to record the variable quantities successively in each of the buffers as storage data for each of the different sampling cycles.

21. (Currently Amended) A vehicle drive control apparatus, comprising:

means for recording a plurality of storage items, each of the plurality of storage items having a different sampling cycle;

means for sampling variable quantities, that indicate a status of a vehicle that changes with a running of the vehicle, at ~~a sampling cycle set~~ different sampling cycles for each of the plurality of storage items; and

means for recording the variable quantities successively as storage data for each of the different sampling cycles.